

COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Oranienburg KVP Post

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 February 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At about 2 p.m. on 31 October 1953, six trucks each towing a 37-mm AA gun travelled from the Oranienburg Castle to the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. Each truck was occupied by 15 to 20 soldiers wearing different service colors.
2. From 28 October to 30 November 1953, enlisted men continuously arrived at the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. They included numerous minor groups of civilians carrying suitcases who arrived from 28 October to 5 November 1953, about 200 enlisted men wearing different service colors who arrived at 11 a.m. on 16 November 1953; from 80 to 90 enlisted men wearing different service colors who arrived at 2 p.m. on 17 November 1953; about 100 enlisted men wearing different service colors, who arrived at 12 a.m. on 21 November 1953; about 60 enlisted men wearing overcoats and carrying rifles who arrived at 4:15 p.m. on 29 November 1953; and about 40 enlisted men wearing overcoats and carrying rifles who arrived at 11 a.m. on 30 November 1953. All newcomers observed, civilians as well as soldiers, carried luggage. Most of the men arriving on 29 and 30 November 1953 wore red service color.
3. During the time of observation, training with individual T 34 tanks was held on the tank training ground. After about mid-November 1953, soldiers drilled, and received training, with about twelve 37-mm AA guns in the barracks yard. Several trucks which carried a total of about 120 soldiers wearing different service colors, daily travelled to the target range near the brickyard.
4. On 9 December 1953, 23 factory new trucks were in installation 105 which served as a garage. Between 11 and 12 p.m. on 11 December 1953, 15 factory-new trucks, which came from the direction of the railroad station, entered the camp.
5. About 11 December 1953, several trucks each towing two factory-new trucks travelled to the concentration camp from the Oranienburg railroad station. On 14 and 15 December 1953, about 150 factory-new trucks arranged in lines were in the KVP section of the concentration camp. Gate II was open.
6. From 7 November 1953 to 4 January 1954, the number of soldiers quartered in the eastern section of the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp was estimated at 2,000. They wore red-bordered black, yellow-bordered black, blue-bordered black, black-bordered blue, and black-bordered pink, collar patches.

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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While only limited activity was observed in the barracks area prior to late November 1953, [ ] after early December 1953, [ ] enlisted men receiving basic training and doing fatigue duty in the installation, and individual details leaving the site, generally toward the terrain on Lehnitz See (lake). Soldiers quartered in the installation [ ] had only recently arrived at the post and were previously stationed on the border near Meiningen. On 4 January 1954, numerous soldiers who had apparently been on leave entered the installation. Motor vehicles observed at the installation included tank truck

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[ ] sedan [ ] truck [ ] trailer [ ] sedan  
[ ] ambulance [ ] and trucks [ ]

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7. At about 3 p.m. on 21 December 1953, about 100 factory new six-wheeled trucks were in front of tank garages 110 to 113. About 20 tank trucks were stored near gate II. About 60 factory-new six-wheeled trucks were unloaded by VPs at the Oranienburg freight station about 90 minutes later. In early December 1953, numerous men constructed wooden sheds in the barracks area. The sheds were apparently intended to store motor vehicles or tanks.

8. On 4 January 1954, the actual strength of the Oranienburg 1st Mecc Command still was about 600 men below authorized strength. Some officers of the command were recently transferred to Eggesin and about 60 men were detailed to the Gloeven NCO school. The 1st Mecc Command was scheduled to receive light-blue collar patches in January 1954.

1. [ ] Comment. The Oranienburg Castle still quarters the KVP AAA officer candidate school;

2. [ ] Comment. The newcomers presumably included both inductees assigned directly to the unit and transfers from other KVP units. It is noted that members of the border police were reassigned to the KVP. This policy had also been noted in 1952.

[ ] KVP vacancies [ ] were scheduled to be filled first in an effort to bring these units to authorized strength. An NCO school in Gloeven is unknown. It is believed that the 60 men mentioned in the present report were detailed to the howitzer artillery regiment of the Potsdam Mecc alert force stationed at Gloeven.

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3. [ ] Comment. The factory-new motor vehicles were probably supplied from the USSR. In September 1953, a distribution point for motor vehicles supplied from the USSR was established in Oranienburg.

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